

St. John XXIII Parish

150 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, ON M3C 3E2

Website: <https://stjohn23do.archtoronto.org>

Email: stjohn23do@archtoronto.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



PARISH BULLETIN | 3rd Sunday of Advent | 17 December 2023

3rd Sunday of ADVENT - Gaudete



MY SOUL SHALL EXULT IN MY GOD.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Luke 4:18

Welcome New Parishioners!

Please introduce yourself and your family to me before or after the mass to welcome you to our parish community.

All parishioners are encouraged to register in our community and participate in the church activities. We are here to support each other and grow in our relationship with God and with our neighbors.

For Registration form, ask anyone of the Ushers or Call the office.

Your Pastor,

Fr. David



Saturday Vigil Mass – 5:15pm

Sunday Mass – 9am, 12:15pm, 5:30pm

Weekdays:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 7pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 9am

Baptism – every 2nd Saturday & 3rd Sunday of the month. Preparation class is required. Talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday masses.

Confession every Saturday at 4pm or by appointment.

Confirmation – for Grade 7 & up registration for 2025 is in the months of September and October 2024

First Holy Communion – for Grade 2 & up registration for 2025 is on October and November 2024

Wedding – call the office for appointment

Anyone who wants to become

Catholic – call the office for appointment

Parish School-

St. John XXIII Catholic School

175 Grenoble Dr. North York, ON M3C 3E7

Tel. 416-393-5348

Archdiocese of Toronto-

Tel. 416-934-0606 *www.archtoronto.org

ST. PETER CANISIUS (Dec. 21st)

Pray for us.

“If you have too much to do, with God’s help, you will find time to do it all.” St. Peter Canisius



“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” (Phil 4.4-5)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.”

This is the Entrance antiphon of all the Masses, this third Sunday of Advent and it is a call to rejoice. This Sunday is known as **Gaudete Sunday**, from the Latin verb **“gaudere,”**– to rejoice! The word invites us all to **the theme** of this Sunday of Advent:

The mood is also encouraged in the first and second readings;

“I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the Joy of my soul”. “For he has clothed me with robe of Salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of Justice.”

Brother and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the Will of God for you in Christ Jesus! Yes, we are called to rejoice, but the question is; why Rejoice?

Because it has revealed to us the magnitude of God’s Generosity and Love.

In Exodus 33, Moses, the Friend of God, pleaded with Him in the words; ***“Please, Lord, Show me your glory.”*** God responded; ***“I will make all my goodness pass before you, ... I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion; But ... You cannot see my Face; for no man shall see Me, and live.”*** Ex. 33:19

With Christmas the Face of God is seen in Face of Baby Jesus. He is Emmanuel; “God with us!”

In the Hymn of Hope, in the 1st Reading, Isaiah prophesied, Jerusalem emerging from the ashes of destruction through the Power of God. In the Hymn, Isaiah, foresaw the day when the Love of God would reach its apex; in the coming of the Messiah. In Isaiah, we hear the Voice of He who is the fulfillment of the Promise; ***“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me, he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives; announce the year of favor from our Lord and the day of Vindication by our God.***

In the Gospel reading today, John the Baptism professes that he is part of that fulfillment of Isaiah Prophecy but quickly reveals that another, other than Himself was present among them; ***“there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal straps I am not worthy to untie.”***

Christ Jesus, is the One who is the Fulfillment of the Promise. He is as described by Angel Gabriel at the annunciation The Son of The Most High. He is Emmanuel God among us. Eden all over again! Let us rejoice then!

We rejoice because, this has been made known to us; God lives among His People. We Rejoice because we’ve been made sharers in His Life; in the words of the 1st reading; we have been “clothed (through Christ) with the garment of Salvation, covered with the robe of righteousness.

We Rejoice Because We’ve been made witnesses of God’s Love and Hope, to our brothers and sisters who thirst for him!

Let us pray then, that we may experience joy in God; who comes among us, in a special way, this Christmas. Amen.



COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHAPTER ONE

“Jesus Christ was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the Virgin Mary”

119. In what way did Christ offer himself to the Father? 606-609, 620

The entire life of Christ was a free offering to the Father to carry out his plan of salvation. He gave “his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45) and in this way he reconciled all of humanity with God. His suffering and death showed how his humanity was the free and perfect instrument of that divine love which desires the salvation of all people.

120. How is Jesus’ offering expressed at the Last Supper? 610-611, 621

At the Last Supper with his apostles on the eve of his passion Jesus anticipated, that is, both symbolized his free self-offering and made it really present: “This is my Body which is given for you” (Luke 22:19), “This is my Blood which is poured out...” (Matthew 26:28) Thus he both instituted the Eucharist as the “memorial” (1 Corinthians 11:25) of his sacrifice and instituted his apostles as priests of the new covenant.

121. What happened in the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane? 612

Despite the horror which death represented for the sacred humanity of Jesus “who is the Author of Life” (Acts 3:15), the human will of the Son of God remained faithful to the will of the Father for our salvation. Jesus accepted the duty to carry our sins in his Body “becoming obedient unto death” (Philippians 2:8).

122. What are the results of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross? 613-617, 622-623

Jesus freely offered his life as an expiatory sacrifice, that is, he made reparation for our sins with the full obedience of his love unto death. This love “to the end” (John 13:1) of the Son of God reconciled all of humanity with the Father. The paschal sacrifice of Christ, therefore, redeems humanity in a way that is unique, perfect, and definitive; and it opens up for them communion with God.

123. Why does Jesus call upon his disciples to take up their cross? 618

By calling his disciples to take up their cross and follow him Jesus desires to associate with his redeeming sacrifice those who are to be its first beneficiaries.

124. In what condition was the body of Christ while it lay in the tomb? 624-630

Christ underwent a real death and a true burial. However, the power of God preserved his body from corruption.

(to be continued)- Catechism of the Catholic Church) <https://www.vatican.va/archive/compendium>

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 16–Sat, 5:15PM Vigil Mass-
+Conchita & +Leoncio Ayala

Dec 17–Sunday 9:00 AM +The Parishioners
12:15 PM + Olivia Dizon
5:30 PM + Enrique Flores

Dec 18 –Mon, 7PM + Lulu Picache

Dec 19 - Tue, 9 AM Thanksgiving B-Day Nelia A.

Dec 20 –Wed, 7 PM Parishioners

Dec 21–Thu, 9 AM Thanksgiving of Garcia Family

Dec 22– Fri, 7 PM Thanksgiving B-day Christine T.

Dec 23–Sat, 9 AM Wed anniversary Roy-Jacque

7-day Candle –Offering–Dec 16- 22, 2023

Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Nelia Alzate
Virgin Mary- For Good Health of Nelia
Chapel ---- +Olivia Dizon

WORD OF THE WEEK



GAUDETE

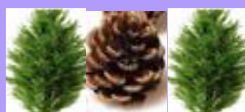
The word “GAUDETE” is Latin for “Rejoice”.

The third Sunday of Advent is called “GAUDETE SUNDAY”. The third candle (Rose in Color) in the Advent wreath is lighted. The Catholic Church uses the color rose to indicate a joyful feast day or holiday. On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, “The Lord is coming”. But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, “The Lord is near.” This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears a rose-colored vestment.

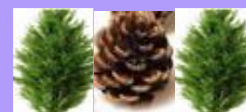
[https:// dioceseofraleigh.org/news/what-gaudete-sunday](https://dioceseofraleigh.org/news/what-gaudete-sunday)

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention –December 2023 - FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

“We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.”



The season of Advent



Our Patron Saint...



"I say only this to the Lord: here I am, ready for everything sufferings as well as joys."

QUOTE OF POPE JOHN XXIII

St. Peter Canisius (Dec 21st)

Peter was born in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in 1521. He joined the Jesuits and worked in Germany, Austria, Bohemia & Switzerland as a leader of the Counter-Reformation. Peter educated Catholics with his popular and influential catechism. Although he worked in a time of conflict with growing Lutheranism, he remained moderate and courteous. Peter died in Fribourg in 1597. He was canonized and declared Doctor of the Church in 1925.

Living with Christ Dec 2023 edition.

PARISH DEVOTIONS

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion

-every Saturday before the 9am Mass

Recitation of the Holy Rosary

-before the Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

-Every 1st Friday at 6:00pm communal

Parish Ministries & Programs

- Eucharistic Extraordinary Ministers
- Lectors—Proclaimers of God’s words
- Altar Servers & Sacristans
- Ushers
- Catholic Women’s League
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- Legion of Mary
- Icon of Our Lady
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Seniors Breakfast Club

If you are interested to join, please email us at stjohn23do@archtoronto.org and we will direct you to the person leading these groups.

What unites us, is much greater than what divides us." St. John XXIII

ADVENT REFLECTIONS (Online- click the link to view& listen)

http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6dTaamqU0EMoLUaJVwB-w_YivA9KPYYX



Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent 2023

Archdiocese of Toronto • 907 views • 1 day ago



Reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent 2023

Archdiocese of Toronto • Premieres 12/9/23, 5:00 PM



Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent 2023

Archdiocese of Toronto • 79 views • 18 hours ago

IN THE NEWS !!!

Pope: Concert with the Poor shows true meaning of Christian message

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2023-12/pope-concert-with-the-poor-shows-meaning-of-christian-message.html>



ARCHDIOCESAN CONSULTATION UNDERWAY – SHARE YOUR IDEAS TO ASSIST WITH FUTURE PLANNING!

Tuesday, October 31, 2023



ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO ALLOCATES OVER \$2.7 MILLION TO SUPPORT EIGHT INDIGENOUS HEALING & RECONCILIATION PROJECTS

Tuesday, December 12, 2023



ARCHBISHOP LEO'S MESSAGE FOR HANUKKAH
Monday, December 11, 2023

NEWS ARCHDIOCESAN ARCHBISHOP LEO

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/>

****click the link to read the full text of the news****

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- If you want to use 2024 pre-numbered donation envelope, please fill up the Parish Registration form and submit it to the OFFICE.
- First Holy Communion First Test is in the month of December, email the office to book an appointment;
- “Hang a Christmas Card on the Tree” we encourage your support on this project;
- See next page for the Mass Schedule on Christmas and New Year’s Day celebration.



MASS SCHEDULE

December

- 23 – 9:00am Regular Saturday morning Mass
- 23 – 5:15pm Vigil Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent
- 24 – 9:00am 4th Sunday of Advent
- 11:00am 4th Sunday of Advent
- 5:30pm Cancelled

CHRISTMAS 2023

December

- 24 Sunday – 12:00 midnight Vigil Mass for Christmas Day
- 25 Monday - 9:00 am Christmas Day
- 12:15 pm Christmas Day
- 5:30 pm Christmas Day

December

- 30 Saturday- 9:00am Regular Saturday morning Mass
- 30 Saturday- 5:15 pm Vigil Mass Feast of the Holy Family
- 31 Sunday - 9:00 am Feast of the Holy Family
- 11:00 am Feast of the Holy Family
- 5:30 pm Cancelled

NEW YEAR 2024

December

- 31 – 7:00pm Vigil Mass Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

January

- 01 Monday- 9:00 am Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
- 12:15 pm Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
- 5:30 pm Solemnity of Mary Mother of God